

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 06874 070031Z

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DIWY-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 PM-04 NSC-05

SS-15 EB-07 FEA-01 COME-00 TRSE-00 L-03 H-02

INT-05 /081 W

-----071311Z 061078 /40

R 070027Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1970

UNCLAS MEXICO 06874

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MX, PFOR

SUBJECT: INTERVIEW WITH SECFONOFF SANTIAGO ROEL AND MEMBERS OF
MEXICAN PRESS

1. ALL MAJOR MEXICAN DAILIES REPORTED FOREIGN SECRETARY SANTIAGO ROEL'S BREAKFAST MEETING WITH 20 MEXICAN WOMEN JOURNALISTS, TELE-
VISED ON MAY 4, 1977. HIS COMMENTS WERE STRAIGHTFORWARD AND IN
KEEPING WITH THE LOPEZ PORTILLO STYLE. ACCORDING TO EXCELSIOR,
ROEL IMPROVED HIS PUBLIC RELATIONS RATING BY ANSWERING BOTH PERSONAL
AND POLITICAL QUESTIONS IN A FRIENDLY, GOOD-HUMORED MANNER.

2. ROEL MADE THE FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS:

A) ON OIL - THE FONOFF AND PEMEX MUST COORDINATE THE DISPOSITION OF
MEXICO'S OIL RESERVES.

B) ON US-MEXICAN RELATIONS - THE SITUATION IS VERY GOOD AT PRESENT.

C) ILLEGAL ALIENS - ROEL HOPES THAT MIGRANT WORKERS WITH 5 YEARS'
RESIDENCE IN US WILL BE LEGALIZED AND ABLE TO TAKE THEIR FAMILIES
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PAGE 02 MEXICO 06874 070031Z

WITH THEM.

D) MEXICAN DIPLOMATIC SERVICE - MEXICAN EMBASSIES WILL NO LONGER BE
USED AS PLACES OF EXILE FOR DISGRACED POLITICIANS. LUIS ECHEVERRIA,
WITH HIS RECORD OF INTERNATIONAL VISION IN FOREIGN POLICY, CANNOT
BE DISCOUNTED AS A POSSIBLE FUTURE AMBASSADOR. (THE QUESTION WAS PUT
TO ROEL IN TERMS OF ECHEVERRIA AS SUCCESSOR TO CARLOS FUENTES IN

PARIS.) THE SALARIES OF MEXICAN DIPLOMATS WILL SOON BE INCREASED.

E) SPAIN - A HISPANIC MEXICAN COMMISSION HAS BEEN NAMED TO REVIEW TREATIES AND OTHER AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES SIGNED PRIOR TO 1939. PRESIDENT LOPEZ PORTILLO WILL VISIT SPAIN BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR.

F) THIRD WORLD - MEXICO HAS NO NEED TO SEEK THE TITLE OF "LEADER OF THE THIRD WORLD". THE TERM THIRD WORLD IS IMPRECISE. MEXICO MUST FIRST SOLVE ITS OWN INTERNAL PROBLEMS. THOMPSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WOMEN, PRESS CONFERENCES, JOURNALISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MEXICO06874
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770161-0190
Format: TEL
From: MEXICO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770582/aaaacszk.tel
Line Count: 72
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 109e0799-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2608729
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INTERVIEW WITH SEC FONOFF SANTIAGO ROEL AND MEMBERS OF MEXICAN PRESS
TAGS: PFOR, SHUM, MX, (ROEL, SANTIAGO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/109e0799-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009